

# WOOD MAGIC

## FOREST FAIR



### FOURTH-GRADE TEACHERS:

*Have we got a field trip for you this year!*

Wouldn't it be great to provide your students with an exciting, fun-filled learning experience next school year? Heading into its 23rd year, the **Wood Magic Forest Fair** is a free, fun, forestry-fact-filled field trip and festival for fourth-graders. A four-hour program of forestry-related educational experiences and demonstrations, the fair combines hands-on activities with visually engaging presentations to teach children about the importance of forest lands to wildlife, the economy and our daily quality of life.

### *Students Have Fun While Learning*

The fair isn't just a walk in the woods; it's a learning experience. South Carolina's **Wood Magic Forest Fair** is a comprehensive environmental education program correlated to state curriculum standards in science, math and language arts. More than 40,000 students from every corner of the state have participated in the program since its inception in 1999, the overwhelming majority of whom demonstrate a significant gain in knowledge about forests, forest products, conservation, and the environmental, social and economic benefits of forests.

### *2023 Locations*

**Wood Magic** will be held at these locations in 2023-2024 school year:

- Piedmont Forestry Center, Tamassee—Oct. 3-6, 2023
- Harbison State Forest, Columbia—Oct. 23-27, 2023
- Hobcaw Barony Discovery Center, Georgetown—Nov. 14-17, 2023

### *Want to apply? Need more information?*

If you'd like to apply or just want more information, contact **Wood Magic** coordinator Matt Schnabel at:

**(803) 896-8892** –OR– **[MSchnabel@scfc.gov](mailto:MSchnabel@scfc.gov)**

The Wood Magic Forest Fair is organized by the South Carolina Forestry Commission and financed through donations and grants. More than 160 volunteers from the forestry community come together every year to make this natural resource program successful.



Dear fourth-grade teacher:

Wouldn't it be great to provide your students with an exciting, fun-filled learning experience next year? That is what more than 2,100 students experienced in 2022 at South Carolina's Wood Magic Forest Fair. As Michelle McWorter from Forest Acres Elementary said, "Everything was hands-on, and stations moved quickly, kept students focused and were engaging! I loved the real-world connections and introductions to jobs students didn't know existed. Best field trip in my 16 years of teaching!"

During this four-hour, **SCDE standards-correlated program**, your class will learn the many benefits of the forests in our state, learn how wood is turned into many different products, learn how foresters use fire to help the forest and wildlife, make recycled paper, and experience a magic show about wood products. Teachers will receive many classroom activities and supplies to supplement your curriculum, and students receive a bag full of "goodies" that relate to forestry, including Wood Magic and Smokey Bear items. All teachers, chaperones and students will receive a pizza lunch and snack. All for FREE!

The Wood Magic Forest Fair has been so successful that applications have exceeded available slots every year, so don't delay sending in your application. Wood Magic will be held at these locations in the 2022-2023 school year:

- **Piedmont Forestry Center**, (Tamassee)—October 3-6, 2023
- **Harbison State Forest**, (Columbia)—October 23-27, 2023
- **Hobcaw Barony Discovery Center**, (Georgetown)—November 14-17, 2023

If you are unable to attend in-person, please check out our virtual WMFF program at: <https://www.scfc.gov/education/wood-magic/>.

Please consider the following before returning your application:

1. We would like for you to coordinate with the other fourth-grade teachers at your school and select a lead teacher. This person will be our primary contact for the application process. Also, we do not need to know the exact number of students at this point, just give us an estimate of the total number of classes expected to attend from your school and the average class size.
2. Please check the school calendar for next year to make sure there are no conflicts with in-service days or holidays before selecting a day. We will try our best to accommodate your selection, but due to the number of applications we receive this is not always the case. Please make note if certain days are not acceptable.
3. Be sure that your planning is such that you arrive no later than 15 minutes before your scheduled start time. Because the Wood Magic is a tightly scheduled event and lasts approximately 4 hours, you may not be able to arrive back at school by the regular dismissal time. ***Please plan for this and clear this with your principal before you apply. If you cannot arrive on time and stay for the entire event, we respectfully request that you do not apply. Late arrivals/early departures affect the other schools attending as well as our volunteers.***
4. Both the students and teachers receive educational materials, t-shirts, lunch and snacks by attending Wood Magic. It is fun and exciting! However, it is an educational event, with the teachers having the responsibility of administering a pre-test and post-test assessment, and conducting activities to prepare the students for the fair. The grants that we receive to conduct this event require the cooperation of the teachers, principals, and staff to make it successful. These grants are what allow us to offer this program **FREE OF CHARGE** to South Carolina's fourth-grade students.

If you and your class would like to attend the Wood Magic Forest Fair, we guarantee that you will enjoy an exciting and fun-filled day learning about South Carolina's natural resources and the importance of forests in our daily lives. We hope you can come! To apply to attend the Wood Magic Forest Fair, please email, fax or mail your completed application form to:

MSchnabel@scfc.gov

—OR—

Wood Magic Forest Fair  
Harbison State Forest  
PO Box 21707  
Columbia, SC 29221

# 2023 WOOD MAGIC FOREST FAIR

## APPLICATION FORM

(for office use only)

Please mail, fax or email your application form to Harbison State Forest, PO Box 21707, Columbia, SC 29221.  
Fax: (803) 896-8896 Email: mschnabel@scfc.gov **Registration is first-come, first-served as space permits.**

*Please print clearly or type:*

### SCHOOL INFORMATION

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

School Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated # of Classes Attending 2023 Wood Magic Forest Fair = \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated # Students: Total \_\_\_\_\_ Per Class \_\_\_\_\_

### LEAD TEACHER INFORMATION

Please select a **Lead Teacher** for your school's 4<sup>th</sup> grade. This teacher will be responsible for all arrangements, correspondence, and distributions. Include a summer phone number for coordinator scheduling questions.

Lead Teacher Name \_\_\_\_\_

School E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Summer E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Classroom Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Summer Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferences for attending Fair:** Please understand that we will try to schedule you as close as possible to your requested day and time. Also note that **you need to arrive at least 15 minutes prior to your scheduled time**. Please discuss travel times with your principal and request time slots that are appropriate for your locale that do not conflict with next year's school calendar. **The Wood Magic Forest Fair is a tightly scheduled series of events, so if you cannot attend the entire 4-hour event on time, please do not submit an application.**

**Label 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> day choice for each location your school can attend:**

Piedmont Forestry Center (Tamassee): \_\_\_\_ Tuesday \_\_\_\_ Wednesday \_\_\_\_ Thursday \_\_\_\_ Friday

Harbison State Forest (Columbia): \_\_\_\_ Monday \_\_\_\_ Tuesday \_\_\_\_ Wednesday \_\_\_\_ Thursday \_\_\_\_ Friday

Hobcaw Barony Discovery Center (Georgetown): \_\_\_\_ Tuesday \_\_\_\_ Wednesday \_\_\_\_ Thursday \_\_\_\_ Friday

**Label 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choice time (keep in mind schools should arrive 15 minutes prior to their start time):**

\_\_\_\_ 9:00-1:00

\_\_\_\_ 9:30-1:30 (Hobcaw Barony location only)

\_\_\_\_ 10:00-2:00

Is there a certain day, start time, or location that is very impractical for your class to attend? \_\_\_\_\_

Anything else you think we need to know: \_\_\_\_\_